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As indicated

MOTION PICTURE FACILITIES AND ATTENDANCE IN THE USSR

Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources. 7

In June 1953, there were under the jurisdiction of state organizations more than 5,200 motion picture theaters in cities and more than 2,500 in rayon centers of the USSR (not including the networks of departmental and trade union therters). During the last few years, the number of sets of motion picture equipment assigned permanently to kolidoozes and sovkhones grew to 11,000, while more than 21,000 portable sets were serving rural areas. (1) In September 1953, there were 12,000 permanent motion picture installations in the motion picture networks of the USSR (2) Several hundred film distributing organizations rent films to the motion picture theaters. As of June 1953, each film distributing organization had, on the average, about 400 full-length art and documentary films and about 500 popular science short films and newsreels.

Despite these facilities and supplies, not enough films were being shown. Often there was no place to show the films; sometimes qualified mechanics or spare parts for broken-down equipment were not available. The portable sets were not used where they should have been or as often as they should have been. The worst fault was that films were not changed often enough; for this the local saviets were largely responsible. A sharp increase in the production of moving pictures was also needed. The majority of the films did not have sound tracks for the non-Russian languages of the Soviet Union. During 1952, only 12 art films had such sound tracks.(1)

The number of moving picture installations in 1952 was 105 percent of the number of moving picture installations in 1951. (3)

During 1952, there was a total attendance of 444 million at films shown by trade-union organizations; this was 99 million more than in 1951. The trade-union organizations exceeded the 1952 plan for operating new motion picture

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installations. The plan for making profits from showing motion pictures in 1952 was not fulfilled because of many cancellations in motion picture schedules. Some theater managers let people in without paying, changed scheduled programs, etc. Motion pictures were not well enough advertised (h)

RSFSR

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In a speech given at the third dession of the Supreme Soviet RSFSR. Minister of Finance T. Fadeyev stated that the RSFSR budget for 1953 allows 85 million rubles for building and equipping new motion picture theaters.(5)

In 1952, more than 100,000 operating days were lost in the rural motion picture network of the RSFSR for lack of qualified persons capable of repairing motion picture machines. During the first quarter of 1953, 22 000 operating days were lost in the PSFSR for the same reason.(2)

In Arkhangel skaya Oblast there were in March 1953 more than 200 rortable sets of motion picture equipment with familities for sound, and more than 160 motion picture installations in operation in forest villages (7)

The number of restantiewing films on agriculture is growing from year to year in Moskovskaya Oblast. In 1931 5,455,000 people saw these films, while in 1952 the total was 6.8h1,500 (8) In August 1953, there were 1,570 kolkhoz motion picture installations in Moskovskaya Oblast. During the first 6 months of 1953, almost 95,000 showings were held, attended by a total of 11,500,000.(9)

From 1950 to 1952, the number attending motion pictures in the villages of Novosibirskaya Oblast doubled. Powever, there was only one projector for the rural areas and if that broke down then there was no provision for further showings of the pictures. In 1952, for lack of space parts, portable motion picture projectors in the oblast were idle for 4,000 operating days. The motion picture projector repairmented many complaints about the quality of the space parts received. The market of the projectors in the oblast used narrow film. It was difficult to obtain transportation for the portable motion picture equipment, expecially in winter (10)

Estonian SSR

Between 1951 and 1953, the motion picture network of the Estonian SSR grew 3.5 times, it consisted in April 1993 of 176 moving picture installations. In 1952, these installations had a total attendance of about 10 million persons (11) There were 120 portable sets of motion picture againment to serve the rural population of the republic. The sets were available in every rayon. During the first 6 months of 1933 the portable sets used in rural areas served about 900,000 persons.(12)

Lithuanian SSR

There were 37 moving picture theaters in the Lithuanian SSR when the republic was liberated. In March 1953, there were 409 motion picture installations, 324 of them in villages. During 1951 and 1952, the state spent more than 10,700,000 rubles on the construction of motion picture theaters. Fortable motion picture sets were sent to most kolkhozes at least two or three times a week. In 1950, 1,420,000 workers in villages viewed motion pictures, and in 1952, twice that number. Total 1952 motion picture attendance in the republic was about 11 million. By the end of the Fifth Pive-Year Plan, there are to be 200 motion picture theaters and 400 sets of portable motion picture equipment in the republic (13)

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The Kaunes school for motion picture mechanics is the only institution in the republic which prepares mechanics for repairing motion picture projectors. In 1953, the school planned to graduate about 150 qualified workers. (14)

Belorussian SSR

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In 1953, more than 1,500 populated points in Mogilevskaya Oblast were not served even by portable motion picture projectors.(2)

Ukrainian SSR

At the beginning of 1953, there were 7,603 motion picture installations in the Uhrainian 33R, 5,582 of them in villages. In 1952, the attendance at motion picture installations under the Ministry of Cinematography alone was 204 million. However, in 1952, the rural motion picture network served 12 million fewer people than it could and should have, and fell 41.6 million rubles short of planned returns.(15)

In September 1953, there were 695 metron picture installations in Stalinskaya Oblast; 377 of them were operated by the Ministry of Culture, 278 by trade unions, and 40 by other ministries.(2)

Turkmen and Tadzhik SSRs

In 1952, the plan for showing films in villages of the Turkmen SSR was fulfilled only 47.7 percent, and in villages of the Tadzhik SSR, only 67.8 percent. The plan for investigating conditions at village motion picture installations in the Turkmen SSR was fulfilled by only 55 percent. In the Tadzhik SSR, 31 percent of the motion picture installations were out of operation and 175 films were ruined because of low-quality projecting equipment. In the Turkmen SSR, 40.1 percent of the motion picture installations were out of operation and 124 films were ruined.(16)

Kirgiz SSR

There were 342 motion picture installations in operation in September 1953 in the cities and rayons of the Kirgiz SSR. Permanent motion picture installations were in operation in 100 kolldor villages; where there were no permanent installations. 132 portable mats were regularly taken to populated points, serving each two or three times a month. From 1951 to 1953, the republic school for motion picture mechanics graduated more than 400 specialists; more than 150 of them were Kirgiz (2)

In April 1953, shout 80 trade-union motion picture installations were in operation in the citics, towns, and villages of the Kirgiz SSR. The number of installations in the trade-union network in 1953 was almost 150 percent of the 1950 number. The trade-union plan for showing films in 1952 was fulfilled only 88.7 percent, and motion picture installations stood idle for a total of 1,674 operating days. In 1953, the trade-union network planned more than 24,000 showings to serve a total of more than 3 million people (6)



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